



A FREE monthly news magazine for the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City

Swamp Fox Scene



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May 2012

Governor to host county event on June 2

MARION COUNTY DAY HEALTH CARNIVAL AND JOB FAIR SET

Allendale was first and now it is Marion's turn ... After meeting with county leaders in March to discuss ways to move Marion forward, Gov. Nikki Haley and her Original Six Foundation are showcasing Marion on June 2 at the Marion County Technical Education Center on U.S. Highway 76 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The special day, focusing on health issues and jobs, is open to all. The day seeks to get neighbors helping neighbors again in South Carolina, Haley said earlier this year in Allendale, when her

foundation conducted its first special county day. The Foundation hopes to help match families and organizations that have resources to share with families and organizations with needs, crossing traditional boundaries in the state.

The group is organized as a statewide initiative to help provide the tools and



resources needed for distressed communities in the state to grow economically.

The Foundation unites private support and public challenges and does not use any government funding. To learn more about the Governor's Foundation, visit www.TheOriginalSixFoundation.org. More information about the day will be coming and volunteers are needed. To volunteer, call Wendy Hoymeyer at 803-244-9511.

Shown at left are Marion County Healthcare Foundation Director Gene Tucker with Gov. Haley in March.

Come & enjoy the 20th annual FoxTrot Festival! Friday, May 18 & Saturday, May 19

Friday: Movie + Fireworks Display, Fox Field

Family movie starts at dusk and fireworks follow; Gates open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person; Concessions provided by MHS Boosters.

Saturday: Main Street Parade starts the day's activities at 10 a.m.

Amusement Rides for Children and Adults, Antique Car + Tractor Show, Arts + Crafts, Live Entertainment, Food Court, petting Zoo, pony Rides, and More! A fun day for all!

performing noon-6 p.m. on the Main + Godbold Street Stage:

Emmalyn Davis' School of Dance, Party Favor Band,

Victoria Huggins with Jason Bullock, Justine Roberts' School of Dance, Bo Poston, Renewed Hearts

Evening Street Dance with A New Creation, FREE admission, 6-9 p.m.

Call Chuck for details, 843-423-9918.



CITY NEWS

City selects Jones as Employee of the Month

The City of Marion selected Eric Jones as its March 2012 Employee of the Month.

Eric joined the Street Department in September 2011 and quickly established himself as a valuable asset to the crew.

He is a hard worker who takes great pride in his work, which varies throughout the year.

Eric helps to prepare and plant the community gardens in the spring and fall, mows grass during the summer months and

plays an important role in decorating the City for the Christmas season. "Eric has been a great addition to our team," said Street Superintendent Ronnie Sanders. "He has a positive attitude and works hard, and he is always willing to take on any new projects that are assigned to him." The Mayor and Council recognized Eric Jones, at right, for his strong work ethic and significant contributions to the City of Marion at the April council meeting.



City Patrolman Jack McCaskill

Department announces new hire, rehire

The Marion Police Department is pleased to introduce two new employees, Patrolman Tyrone Reed and Trey McCaskill.

Reed was re-hired by the City in March 2012. He was previously employed with the Marion Police Department in 2010.

Patrolman McCaskill was hired by the City in 2011 and graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy in March 2012. Both officers are residents of Marion County.

Employees work hard to keep trash off the streets

The things we throw away! Keyboards, couches, tree limbs and broken chairs, with other household and yard items and yard debris are thrown out along the street curb at our houses and then they magically disappear. Disappear, that is, into the back of trucks.

And then, thanks to the city staff who work hard at driving and loading those trucks through our neighborhoods, our yard and home debris and clutter is taken away. And our streets and neighborhoods are left cleaned. According to Sanitation Department Superintendent Leonard "Winky" Fore, the city is divided into four routes and these men and their trucks start and run their routes repeatedly all week long.

And picking up discarded tires is still a no-no, he said. Citizens are always reminded to leave tires with the dealer who replaced them or to take them to the county's landfill, he said. Over the course of the day, according

to Fore, five truckloads carried away enough to fill four 30-yard containers. In a year, according to AWS, about 140 tons of commercial trash and 280 of residential trash is carted away.

On Monday mornings the sanitation crews begin their routes through the north end of the west side of town (Kimball Drive to Godbold Street), the south end of the west side (MLK Boulevard to Godbold Street), the north end of the east side (Rogers Road to Godbold Street), and the south end of the east side (Silver Trace Apartments to Godbold Street).

If citizens happen to place their debris street side after the truck is passed, Fore said, "Be patient. They'll be back for it. Remember, though, it depends on how much other debris is to be picked up along the route and hauled off before they can return."

For questions about debris removal by the city's sanitation employees, call the City Administrator at City Hall, 843-423-5961.



Cleanup day nets five truck loads of trash in city

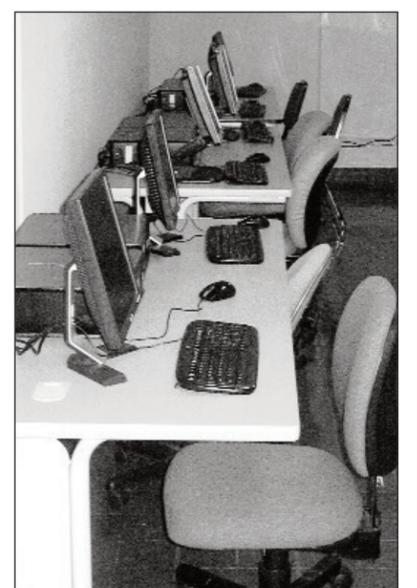
The city's clean-up team was hard at work on Saturday, April 14, part of the county-wide Great American Cleanup. The cleanup was, in part, to fulfill grant requirements. The City and County received Palmetto Pride grants this year and agreeing to help keep the environment clean is part of the process.

Grooming business opens on Harlee Place

The Marion Chamber of Commerce had a ribbon cutting to welcome the owners of Lucky Dog Grooming Salon to Marion on Wednesday, April 18. Located at 118 Harlee Place, the business is owned by Melissa and George Ford. Marion Chamber President Alan Zeman and Mayor Rodney Berry, along with other Chamber board members and friends, shown at right, welcomed the new business to the community. To make an appointment for your pet or for more information about their services, call the Salon at 843-275-3644. For more information about the Chamber, call 843-423-3561.



Computer Lab is open to public



Computers are available for use from 9 a.m. until noon and from 2 to 6 p.m. in the Swamp Fox Higher Education Center on Elizabeth Street.

Robbie Johnson of the City Recreation Department oversees the center.

For information about the computer lab, call the City Recreation department at 843-423-5410.

COMING UP!

Keep up with what's going on around Marion!

May 1st

Tuesday, 6 p.m., Book Club, Meeting in "Lunch" on Dozier Street. First Tuesday of each month. Call Carol at 423-7000 for details.

May 2nd

Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., Olde Towne Marion, Rise & Shine, HMRA Building on Main Street. Everyone is welcome. Call 423-9918, for details.

May 3rd

Thursday, 6-8 p.m., Taste of Mullins, Lions Club Park, Tickets are \$10; children under 5 free; Call Cindy at 464-6651 for details.

May 5th

Saturday, 7 a.m.-Noon, Olde Towne Marion's Spring Yard Sale in Baxley Hardware's parking lot; \$5 per table; Call Chuck, 423-9918, for details

May 8th

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., City Council (Second Tuesday of the Month), Council

Chambers, City Hall, 107 S. Main Street.

May 11th

Friday, 5:30 p.m., Olde Towne Marion's Annual Meeting in the Historic Marion Opera House. Come celebrate what Olde Towne Marion has accomplished this year and learn what is coming for next year! Enjoy the evening's "Incredible Edible" auction.

May 14th

Monday, 5:30 p.m., Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, Fire Station, Bond Street.

May 18th

Friday, at dusk, annual FoxTrot outdoor movie, followed by Fireworks, Fox Field. \$2 per person. Call Chuck for details, 423-9918.

May 19th

Saturday, Beginning with the 10 a.m., Parade on Main Street, 20th Annual FoxTrot in downtown Marion; Rides, food, entertainment and more! Call Chuck, 423-9918 for information.



May 20th

Sunday, 3 p.m., Debut of Mable Montgomery's *Limbs on Our Family Tree*, about life in Marion from 1850-1955, at The Grove, 408 Harllee Place. Reception follows debut of book. Call Denley or Ann Caughman, 423-5220, for details.

May 25th

Friday, 7 p.m., Mullins Downtown Live presents Carl Brunson in a free concert at the Historic Train Depot on Main Street. Call 464-6651 for details.

FOODS & FILMS ...

Contact Brian Nolan at 250-4322 about Marion's *Foodie* group or *Film Club*, sponsored by the Arts Council of Marion County and follow the groups on Facebook ... E-mail Brian for more information at briannolanemail@gmail.com.

Coming in June ...

Plan now! June 30th, 7 p.m. 5-Alarm Beach Music Festival at Hidden Acres; Money raised goes to the county's fire departments; Advance tickets \$15; At the gate, \$20; Call Donny at 430-0332 for more information.

Officers remind golf cart owners to obey rules of the roads, or face fines

Residents are reminded to obey state and local laws regarding driving golf carts. Drivers must have a valid South Carolina driver's license, have a permit from the state's Department of Motor Vehicles (\$5), and have proof of insurance.



Drivers also can only drive golf carts during daylight hours. Parents who allow children to violate the laws shown below will be charged accordingly, Marion Police Chief Jim Gray said.

According to SC Code of Laws, Section 56-3-115, the owner of a vehicle commonly known as a golf cart, if he or she has a valid driver's license, may obtain a permit from the Department of Motor Vehicles upon the payment of a fee of \$5

and proof of financial responsibility which permits his agent, employees, or him:

(1) To operate the golf cart on a secondary highway or street within two miles of his residence or place of busi-

ness during daylight hours only; and

(2) To cross a primary highway or street while traveling along a secondary highway or street within two miles of his residence or place of business during daylight hours only.

The fine for failing to have proper licenses, or driving after dark in the City of Marion, is \$237.50, according to Heather Evans, Marion Clerk of Court.

The \$237.50 fine also applies to the charge of "permitting unauthorized children to drive" and "permitting unauthorized persons to drive."



City employee Glenn Bridgers gets one of two sites ready for the Marion community gardens ...

Want to volunteer to work in a garden? Call Alan Ammons, City Administrator, at 423-5961.

NEED HELP WITH CITY SERVICES?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to point you in the right direction ...

<u>Mayor</u>	Rodney Berry, 843-423-8235
<u>City Administrator, Building Official</u>	Alan Ammons, Ext. 19
<u>City Clerk</u>	Pam Jones, Ext. 10
<u>City Treasurer</u>	Patricia Brown, Ext. 18
<u>Municipal Court Clerk</u>	Heather Evans, 843-423-8616
<u>Personnel, Purchasing Director</u>	Elizabeth Ficik, 843-423-8614
<u>Planning & Zoning Admin Assistant</u>	Vickie Nichols, Ext. 11
<u>Recreation Admin Assistant</u>	Cheryl Askins, 423-5410

The *Swamp Fox Scene* is the City of Marion's free monthly news magazine for citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multi-forms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper. The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs. Call Mayor Rodney Berry or City Administrator Alan Ammons at 843-423-5961 for more information.

Questions about your water or sewer bill?

Call Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority at (843) 765-4539

or visit them in City Hall on Main Street.

Visit Olde Towne Marion online @ www.theswampfox.com

Discover the Marion Chamber's Facebook page ... Also on Facebook are The City of Marion and the Farmers Market & Market Place!

SPORTS & RECREATION

City Recreation to offer yoga for beginners

The City of Marion Recreation Department will be offering "Introduction to Yoga" on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning on May 22.

The classes will be conducted in the training room of the Marion Fire Department Substation on Senator Gasque Road.

The classes, taught from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., will be open to the first 12 students to sign up. There is no fee for the eight-week Introductory Class.

For information and to register, call Judy Johnson at 423-3561.



PLAY BALL!

From chaos to order; from opening pitches to opening catches, team pictures and more ... Opening Day events kicked off the 2012 Baseball, T-ball and Softball seasons on April 14 ...



GET OUTSIDE & PLAY!

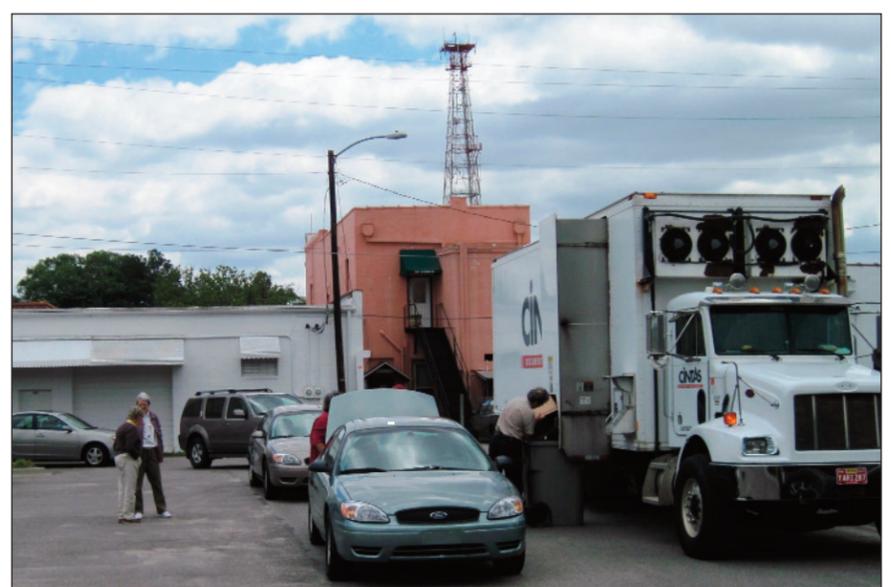
It's official! Marion joins 213 cities and towns across the nation to earn recognition from national non-profit KaBOOM! as a 2012 Playful City USA for our efforts to increase and improve play opportunities for children.

Stay tuned for more information about what this award means for our city!



Chamber recognizes Yard of the Month

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne James, 1619 Fox Hollow Drive, have been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for April 2012. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Mr. and Mrs. James will be receiving a gift certificate from Tru Green Nursery in recognition of this honor.



Second Shred Day still successful

The Marion Chamber of Commerce, thanks to members First Charter and Wheeler Street Package, had its second annual Shred Day as a way to securely get rid of personal documents. The two-hour stretch was "steady" with customers, Judy Johnson, Chamber executive vice president said. The program is offered free, and any monetary gifts go to help offset the Chamber's education programs. Shown above is a line of cars with folks waiting to have their papers destroyed.